



PRESBYTERIAN TIDBITS

The Newsletter of Ottawa Presbyterian Church
150 N. Oak St., Ottawa, OH 45875-1810 ♦ (419) 523-3694
9:00am Sunday School / 10am Worship ♦ ottawapresby.org
Rev. Amy Remaklus, *Pastor*; Andrea Morman, *Secretary*

March 2025

Dear friends,

Psalm 107 reads, “Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever!” I do rejoice in the Lord, knowing that God’s goodness and love pour out in this congregation! I extend a personal thank you for the caring and generosity that you all demonstrated during the month of February with the loss of my mother; and I thank you for sharing your gifts of ministry, proclamation, worship leadership, prayer support, baking, and much more as you tended to the needs of this community and supported one another in my absence. We have all been generously blessed with gifts to share, and the Spirit guides us to use them in ways that nurture this community.

Looking to the future, spring is upon us!! I can feel it in the air with warmer temperatures and generous rain showers. With spring come Lenten promises of reconciliation, redemption, and new life! We will begin this Lenten season with an at-home Ash Wednesday devotional. Join us Sunday, March 2, to receive your ashes and the devotional reading that you can share with your family, friends, coworkers, and whomever you feel called to do so on Wednesday, March 5.

Speaking from a personal experience in 2024 at the University of Toledo, sharing ashes with non-Catholic individuals is particularly powerful in an otherwise overwhelmingly Catholic town. Non-Catholics often presume that ashes are “for Catholics” along with fish-fries and abstention from chocolate and cursing. Of course, Ash Wednesday and Lent are much more than these traditional practices! Ash Wednesday and Lent, originally practiced as public penance services in the early Christian church, are observed today by Catholics, Lutherans, Anglicans, Methodists, and Presbyterians, among others; and ashes on the forehead stem from an Old Testament tradition, where ashes were a sign of repentance and humility. When I administered “ashes on the go” last year at UT, I was reminded of the importance of sharing public penance and offering grace and encouragement to those we meet in our everyday experiences. I pray that your participation in this year’s at-home Ash Wednesday experience will be life-giving and will provide an opportunity for you to share the hope of Christ with those you love and those you are yet to meet.

Lenten tidings,
Pastor Amy
(419) 890-9145
amyremaklus@yahoo.com



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Pause, Meditation, & Prayer is off on March 3 and will resume March 10. The sanctuary will be open to the public on Mondays from 4-7 p.m. I will be in the office as well, and I look forward to connecting with you in whatever way makes sense.

Bible Study is off on March 3 and will resume March 10 at 6:30 p.m. Our focus will be the Scots Confession. We will meet in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom.

Choir Practice starts on March 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Prayer Concerns

Please note: Specific information about those included in our prayers is available during worship, from Pastor Amy, in our office, or from our Session members. However, specific names will not be posted on this web version of the newsletter.

Please pray for those with **health concerns** no matter what their stage of life.

Please pray for those **serving in the military**, both at home and overseas, as well as the families who watch and wait for them.

Please pray for those who are either waiting for or who have received **organ transplants** and the families who face difficult decisions.

Please pray for **those facing decisions** in their personal lives, their professional lives, their family lives, or their spiritual lives.

Please include a prayer of thanks for our congregation and its **PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee)** and the work they have done to bring Rev. Amy Remaklus to serve our congregation on a part-time basis.

And finally, please say a prayer of thanksgiving for the **blessings of this congregation**—as we continue to celebrate and enjoy more than 175 years of congregational life here in Ottawa!

The **Prayer Circle** is a group willing to **confidentially pray for your joys and concerns**. Please contact prayercircle@ottawapresby.org or amyremaklus@yahoo.com.

Financial Reports

Financial reports for the church are available in the hard copy version of this newsletter. If you would like more information, you may also contact our treasurer (treasurer@ottawapresby.org).

Volunteers!



Signup sheets are on the bulletin board for anyone willing to volunteer to be a liturgist or provide flowers in March.



Your invited! 90th Birthday Party for Janice Gordon at Sycamore Lake Winery, Columbus Grove, on her birthday, Saturday, March 15, Noon till 2. Some of their snacks will be provided and some bottles of their wine, but otherwise buy your own. No gifts please – just cards in BIG letters. This is not a surprise.

World Day of Prayer

A service will be held on Friday, March 7, at 11am at St. John Catholic Church, Glandorf. A light lunch will follow.

Putnam Pet Pals will be holding their annual Quarter Auction on Friday, March 28 starting at 7 PM at the Ottawa VFW. The VFW will also be serving fish dinners that evening, so bring your quarters and support two local organizations in one night! The money raised from the quarter auction helps fund PPP's many missions, which include supporting local dog and cat spay/neuter procedures, supplying dog and cat food to the Ottawa Food Pantry, and fostering homeless dogs. Talk to Lynne for more information.



**Daylight Savings
Sunday, March 9**

**Session will meet on Wednesday,
March 19, at 6:30 pm**

Summer Camp Info



It's not too early to start planning for Kirkmont! Information on summer camps can be found on the kirkmontcenter.org website or by clicking on this link:

<https://www.kirkmontcenter.org/summer-camps/>

Also, this is the year for the Presbyterian USA Triennium for youth entering high school next fall through youth completing their senior year of high school. This is an amazing experience and one that is sure to make an impact on all attendees. More information can be found at:

<https://presbyterianyouthtriennium.org/>.

Any youth from OPC that would like to attend either or both of these opportunities can apply for a scholarship through our Sewell Scholarship Fund. Scholarship forms can be found under the tab "Presby Papers" on the ottawapresby.org website, or by clicking on this link:

<https://ottawapresby.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Sewell-Scholarship-OPC-Scholarship.pdf>

Scholarship applications are due on April 27. Applications can be scanned and emailed to Lynne Hirzel at hirzel506@gmail.com, or given to her at church.

Kirkmont Center
2025 Summer Camps

Quilt & Crafts Camp I June 1-6 Ages 18+	PYC Jr. Camp June 15-21 Completed Grades 3-6	You & Me Camp July 12-13 Ages 3-17 with an Adult
Beginners Camp June 8-11 Completed Grades K-3	Camp Rejoice July 6-12 Completed Grades 3-12	Quilt & Crafts Camp II July 13-18 Ages 18+
PYC Sr. Camp June 15-21 Completed Grades 7-12		Alumni Camp September 5-7 Ages 18+

Kirkmont Center
6946 Co. Rd. 10
Zanesfield, OH 43360
info@KirkmontCenter.org
(937) 593-2141

Registration & Details:
Registration is now open at KirkmontCenter.org! Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Maumee Valley Presbytery Commissioner's Report

Maumee Valley Presbytery met via Zoom on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Chas Myers, Commissioner and Beth Myers, Alternate Commissioner attended. Worship was led in three segments by the New Worshipping Communities Commission. There were break out discussions as to where in our communities we could minister. One interesting place that was mentioned was a church doing ministry in the local laundromat. They brought quarters and pizza.

The Leadership Commission did an interesting presentation on discernment. We have been doing that for the past three years with our congregation conversations.

Discipleship Commission reported on the following upcoming events:

- Spiritual Formation Team Sponsored Retreats
 - April 5, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, Fremont
 - April 27-29, Sunday 7:00 PM through Tuesday 1:00 PM, Lial Renewal Center, Whitehouse
 - September 20, 10:00 AM to Noon, Toledo Museum of Art
 - April 27-29, Sunday 7:00 PM through Tuesday 1:00 PM, Lial Renewal Center, Whitehouse
- Kirkmont Camp Dates
 - Quilt and Craft Camp 1, June 1-6
 - Beginners Camp, June 8-11
 - PYC Sr. Camp, June 15-21
 - PYC Jr Camp, June 15-21
 - Camp Rejoice, July 6-12
 - You and Me Camp, July 12-13
 - Quilt and Craft Camp 2, July 13-18
 - Alumni Camp , September 5-7
- Presbyterian Youth Triennium 2025
 - July 28-31, Louisville

Findlay First is acting as a warehouse for "Gifts of the Heart" Kits. Kits that churches can assemble include Emergency Cleanup Buckets, Hygiene Kits, Kids Kits, and Menstrual Hygiene Kits.

The next MVP meeting will be on May 20, 3:00 PM at Van Wert First Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas Myers, OPC Commissioner to MVP

In 2025 the Spiritual Formation Team offers
Four Opportunities for Rest, Reflection, and Restoration
See MVP website to register: maummeevp.org
Scholarships available: email matt@maummeevp.org

One day retreats in Spring and Fall:

Saturday, April 5, 2025 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center, 1250 Tiffin Street, Fremont Ohio

The cost of the retreat is \$15.00 which covers lunch.

Rev. Bob Butcher will provide a brief time of centering
and then you are welcome to walk in creation.

Saturday, September 20, 2025 10:00 a.m. to noon, followed by lunch

Toledo Museum of Art

Dr. Marie Loudon-Hanes will lead us in viewing selected art pieces.

Cost: Admission to the museum is free,

There is a \$10.00 charge for parking per vehicle

Lunch at the TMA café, cost varies by your order

42 Hour Retreats in Spring and Fall

April 27-29, 2025

Sunday 7:00 p.m. through Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Lial Renewal Center, 5908 Davis Road Whitehouse, Ohio

Rev. Rebecca Bosarge, speaker: A Sacred Spring, "Come Away with Me"

October 12-14, 2025

Sunday 7:00 p.m. through Tuesday 1:00 p.m.

Lial Renewal Center, 5908 Davis Road Whitehouse, Ohio

Pastor Tom Polker, leader

A Silent Retreat.

Tom Polker will provide centering input,
for an otherwise silent experience.

The following details apply to both of the 42 hour retreats:

Cost: basic retreat \$25.00 for all sessions and all meals

Lodging:

\$35.00 per night for private room with shared bathroom

\$40.00 per night for private room and private bathroom

Community Happenings

Remember Those Good Old Days Gathering



March 13, 2025
10:00-11:30 a.m.

Columbus Grove Community Center
17524 Road 8-P
Columbus Grove 

Reservations are required by February 28, 2025



Putnam County Council on Aging
419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760
Serving Seniors age 60 or better



MARCH 27, 2025
10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Columbus Grove Community Center
17524 Road 8-P
Columbus Grove

Reservations are required by March 17, 2025



Putnam County Council on Aging
419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760
Serving Putnam County Seniors Age 60 or Better



Heart Health

Presented by:
Gerri Hempfling ACNP
St. Rita's Medical Center

March 25, 2025
10:00- 11:30 a.m.

CONTINENTAL AMERICAN LEGION
109 SOUTH 5TH STREET
CONTINENTAL

Registration is required by March 14, 2025

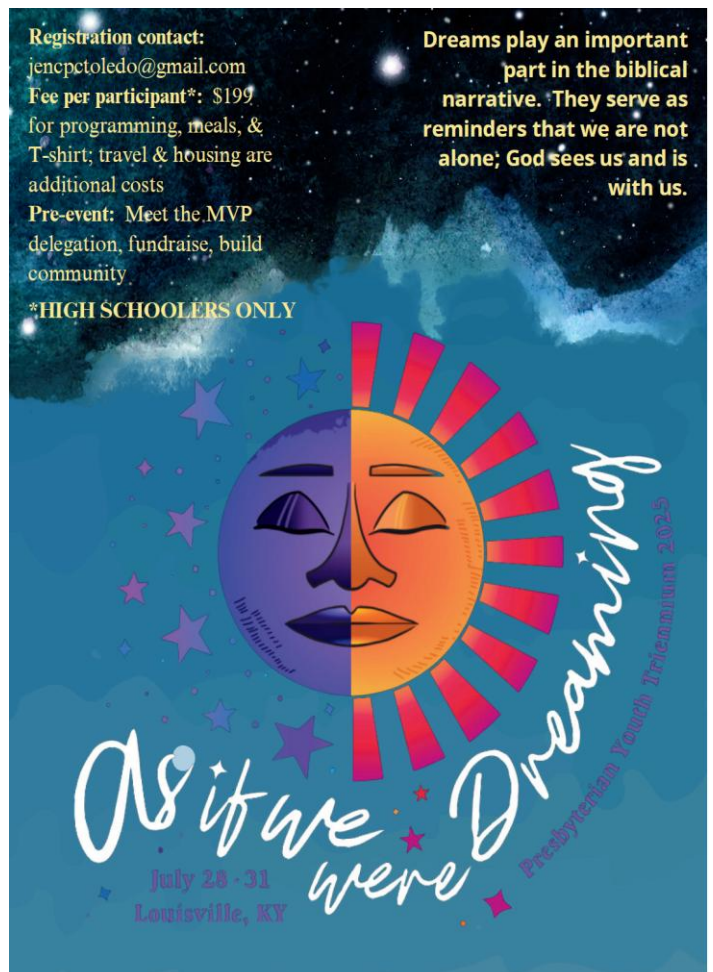


Putnam County Council on Aging
419-523-4121 or 1-877-796-1760
Serving Seniors age 60 or better

Registration contact:
jenepctoledo@gmail.com
Fee per participant*: \$199
for programming, meals, &
T-shirt; travel & housing are
additional costs
Pre-event: Meet the MVP
delegation, fundraiser, build
community

***HIGH SCHOOLERS ONLY**

Dreams play an important
part in the biblical
narrative. They serve as
reminders that we are not
alone; God sees us and is
with us.



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OTTAWA, OH 45875-1810
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Presbyterian Tidbits is published once a month by:

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Our website is ottawapresby.org

DATE	ELDERS IN CHARGE	FLOWERS
March 2	Lynne H.	TBD
March 9	Becky R. (Communion)	Kaufman
March 16	Mike K.	TBD
March 23	Brandon F.	TBD
March 30	Kate G.	TBD

2025 Committees Chairs and officers:

Treasurer - Beth Myers
Financial Secretary - Lynne Hirzel
Worship and Music – Lynne Hirzel
Fellowship/OPW Rep. – Becky Riepenhoff
Mission and Outreach – Brandon Font
Stewardship & Communication – Kate Gerding
Presbytery Rep - Chas Myers
Christian Education & Youth – Victoria Otto
Clerk of Session - Karl Hirzel
Church Operations/Personnel – Mike Kaufman
Nominating Committee Chair – Kate Gerding (As outgoing Elder for 2025)

Session:

Class of 2025: **Katelyn Gerding, Becky Riepenhoff**
Class of 2026: **Lynne Hirzel, Mike Kaufman**
Class of 2027: **Brandon Font, Victoria Otto**